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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/717,607	11/21/2000	Marvin T. Ling	2817-A-19	1103

7590 03/18/2005

CAHILL, SUTTON & THOMAS P.L.C.

ATTN: Charles R. Hoffman

155 Park One

2141 E. Highland Avenue

Phoenix, AZ 85016

EXAMINER

BRINICH, STEPHEN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2624	

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/717604

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20050224

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/717,607

Applicant(s)

LING ET AL.

Examiner

Stephen M Brinich

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4-23 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4-23 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see Response filed 10/5/04 (page 17, lines 4-8), with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 3, 24, & 26-27 under 35 USC §102 have been fully considered and are persuasive. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of these claims. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Roye in view of Burges et al.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 2, line 8, "objects which essential information" should apparently read --objects which represent essential information--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the

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art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2 & 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roye in view of Burges et al.

Re claims 2 & 25, Roye discloses (column 2, line 41 - column 3, line 39) an arrangement for forming a digital representation of an image composed of runlength data (column 2, line 46) is processed. In this processing of image runlength data, a set of "slices" is generated and an object-grabbing operation is performed on this set (column 2, lines 41-52), trivial gaps ("noise images") are separated from significant information ("essential images"), the significant information is marked for retention while the trivial gaps are discarded, and a reduced noise version of the image is reconstructed containing only the former.

Roye does not disclose the use of a logical AND function to combine two sets of image data to produce a composite image. The use of a logical AND function to combine two sets of image data to produce a composite image is disclosed by Burges et al (column 7, lines 45-53). The use of the Burges et al AND function to combine the plurality of elements of significant image information of Roye to produce the advantage of a final output image combining all the significant image information

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would be an expedient obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Re claim 25, an implementation of the Roye system using a processor running a stored program (Appendix A) is disclosed.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 4-23 are allowed.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Re claims 4-5 & 22-23 (and dependent claims 6-21), the art of record does not teach or suggest the recited arrangement of determining a line skew angle in relationship to objects determined to be representative of essential image data.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen M. Brinich at 703-305-4390. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays 7:00-4:30, alternate Fridays off.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 Customer Service center at 703-306-0377.

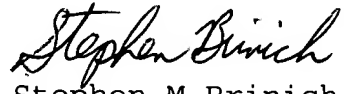
If attempts to contact the examiner and the Customer Service Center are unsuccessful, supervisor David Moore can be contacted at 703-308-7452.

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Faxes pertaining to this application should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 official fax number, which is 703-872-9306.

Hand-carried or courier-delivered correspondence pertaining to this application should be directed to

US Patent and Trademark Office
220 South 20th Street
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington VA 22202


Stephen M Brinich
Examiner
Art Unit 2624

smb
March 15, 2005